

*A Newsletter  
of the  
Oberlin College  
Library*



# Library Perspectives

Fall 2004|Issue No. 31

## Foundation Grants Support South Africa Winter Term

The Library has recently received two foundation grants that will support Winter Term projects for Oberlin students to engage in literacy and leadership work in rural South African libraries. The World Library Partnership (WLP), headed by Oberlin alumna Laura Wendell '90, will direct the projects, which will build on the exciting success of the 2004 Winter Term experience, the first undergraduate program coordinated by WLP (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2004).

The grants come from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in the amount of \$40,000 and the Minneapolis Foundation in the amount of \$10,000. These awards will substantially subsidize participation by ten Oberlin students in the projects each year for the next two years (January 2005 and January 2006). The grants will reduce the overall cost to all participants and will also provide financial aid to a limited number of students who would otherwise be unable to participate.

The projects will be quite similar to the January 2004 project, which was sponsored by the Friends of the Library and many other campus offices. The Oberlin College student participants will be paired with teen-aged South African youth to work with younger South African children on a variety of literacy and leadership development activities. In January 2005 the Oberlin students will work in a cluster of rural libraries in Limpopo Province. In 2006 the group will return to KwaZulu Natal, the site of the original project.

Laura Wendell comments on the grant support: "I am delighted that this funding will give more Oberlin students the opportunity to work in  
*continued on page 5*

## Michael Duffy to Speak at Friends Dinner

Award-winning journalist Michael Duffy '80, Washington Bureau Chief for *Time* magazine, will be the featured speaker at the Friends of the Library annual dinner on Saturday, October 30.

Duffy has headed *Time's* Washington bureau, the magazine's largest news gathering organization, for the past seven years. He has written or co-written more than 50 *Time* cover stories. He covered the White House for *Time* during the administrations of former Presidents Bush and Clinton and was also a national political correspondent. Prior to his White House assignments he was both a Pentagon and a Congressional correspondent for *Time*.

Duffy won the Gerald R. Ford Award for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency in 1995. In 1998, following a year in which he worked virtually full-time on campaign finance issues, he and two other *Time* correspondents received the prestigious Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting for a series of investigative stories on campaign finance abuse. The Goldsmith award, which is given by the Joan Shorenstein Center for Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, recognizes journalists whose investigative reporting "best promotes more effective and ethical conduct of government, the making of public policy, or the practice of politics." In 2004 he received a second Gerald R. Ford Award, for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense.

Duffy is the co-author, with Dan Goodgame, of the best-selling book *Marching in Place: The Status Quo Presidency of George Bush*, published by Simon and Schuster in 1992.

*continued on page 4*



*Michael Duffy '80*

## Electronic Delivery of Interlibrary Loan Articles

Starting this fall the Library will begin delivering electronic copies of articles requested through interlibrary loan (ILL). The service will include all articles that are transmitted in electronic form to Oberlin from other libraries. The new service will reduce turnaround time for ILL requests substantially and will be more convenient for ILL users.

When an electronic copy of an article is received by the Library, the user will receive an email message with a link to his or her account in Iliad, the Library's automated ILL server. Once logged in to Iliad, the user will see an option to "view/download" the article. By choosing that option it will then be possible to view the article online, download or print it. The articles are delivered as image files in PDF format and will be available on the Iliad computer server for approximately one month from the time the e-mail notification has been sent.

At the beginning of the semester all accounts on the Iliad server will be set to a default preference for electronic delivery of articles. Users who would prefer to receive printed copies  
*continued on page 4*

## Friends Scholarship Winner



Jesse Lanz, '00

Jesse Lanz, Oberlin College class of 2000, has been awarded the third annual Friends of the Oberlin College Library Graduate Library School Scholarship. Lanz graduated from Oberlin in 2000 with a double major in history and psychology, earning high honors in the latter. While a student at Oberlin he worked in the Library's Preparations Department. He has also worked for the summer reading program at his hometown public library in Hubbard, Ohio.

Lanz is interested in studying academic librarianship and will begin his graduate studies this fall at Kent State University, in the School of Library and Information Science. In pursuing a career in academic libraries he hopes to "apply [his] knowledge and love of libraries to help create places that are as meaningful for other students as they have been for me."

## David Young Talk Available Online

Emeritus Professor of English David Young delivered a fascinating talk about the art of literary translation on Saturday, May 29 for the Friends of the Library program during Commencement / Reunion Weekend. The talk, entitled "Roadmaps for Babel," includes examples of Young's own translations of Petrarch, the German poet Paul Celan, and classical Chinese poetry.

The talk is now available online and can be downloaded from the Library's website at: <http://www.oberlin.edu/library/friends/talks/>

## Friends of the Oberlin College Library Fall 2004 Programs

### Exhibitions:

**Wednesday, September 1 through Tuesday, December 14, Art Library**  
"What are Artists' Books?"

**Saturday, September 11 through Tuesday, December 14,  
Main Level, Mudd Center**  
"The Pursuit of Happiness," An Exhibition of Works by Book Artist Johnny Carrera '91

### Lectures and other events:

**Friday, September 10, 10 a.m. – noon, A Level, Mudd Center**  
Library Book Sale: Friends of the Library Pre-Sale  
Book sale runs from noon – 7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. – noon Saturday.

**Saturday, September 11, 2 p.m., Main Level, Mudd Center**  
"The Pursuit of Happiness," Gallery Talk by Book Artist Johnny Carrera '91.

**Wednesday, October 6, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd Center**  
Faculty talk by Pat Day, Professor of English, "Modern Vampires: Thinking About a Contemporary Myth"

**Saturday, October 30**  
1:30 p.m. Friends Council and Membership Meeting  
Goodrich Room, Mudd Center  
5:45 p.m. Friends Annual Reception and Dinner  
Root Room, Carnegie  
8:00 p.m. Featured Speaker, Michael Duffy '80

**Thursday, November 18, 4:45 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd Center**  
Faculty talk by Roger Copeland, Professor of Theater  
"Merce Cunningham: The Modernizing of Modern Dance"

## "What are Artists' Books?" Exhibit

Is it possible to design a book that is self-illuminating, a book that could be read in the dark?

Could a Victorian novel be altered, page by page, to create a completely new work?

Where would 100 boots go if left to their own devices?

What does classical mythology have to do with 21<sup>st</sup> century plastic surgery?

Could a book take the form of a paper doll?

These and other questions are addressed in an exhibit that is fittingly entitled "What are Artists' Books?" and currently on view at the Art Library. Teresa Collins '05, an intern at the Art Library last spring, worked with Art Librarian Barbara Prior to select the objects for display from the Art Library's extensive collection of over 400 artists' books. Collins also wrote the text of the brochure that accompanies the exhibit.

An artists' book can be described as a book or book-like object, created by an artist, that has strong visual interest. The genre often involves a mixture of media, such as painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture and installation. The examples included in the exhibit represent the wide variety of forms that artists' books take, and are grouped into four categories: amusing books, political books, aesthetically pleasing books, and books that push traditional boundaries. The exhibit will be on display throughout the fall semester.

## Digital Developments

### A New Look for OBIS

OBIS, the Library's online catalog system, has a new web interface. In addition to a fresh look, the new OBIS has improved functionality. New features in the catalog include a quick search box; one step limiting of searches for scores, recordings, periodical titles, and videos; information about call number locations (simply click on the location code in the OBIS record for a floor plan or information about where an item can be found); and display technology that allows users to see records for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean materials in the vernacular languages.

### New Databases

*Early American Newspapers* provides images and searchable full-text for historical American newspapers from 1690-1876, offering "an unprecedented look back into the extraordinary history of the United States -- the story of her people, ideals, commerce and everyday life." There are currently six titles available in the database (*Connecticut Gazette*, *Connecticut Journal*, *Enquirer*, *Federal Gazette*, *Massachusetts Spy*, and the *New-Hampshire Gazette*), which will ultimately include hundreds of historic newspapers and more than one million pages of facsimile images. As an excellent source of primary documents, *Early American Newspapers* will be useful in conjunction with *Evans Digital Edition* (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2003) for research on early American literature as well as history.

*The Morgan Bibliography of Ohio Imprints* describes 9,400 books, pamphlets, and broadsides printed in Ohio from 1796-1850. The bibliography, now available

*continued on page 5*

## Money in Politics and Life

The Pursuit of Happiness, an exhibition of works by book artist Johnny Carrera '91, opens on the main level of Mudd on Saturday, September 11. The exhibition explores the connections between money and happiness and the role of money in other aspects of American life, including politics.

In the brochure accompanying the exhibition Carrera asserts: "In every facet of their lives, Americans demonstrate a belief that the pursuit of happiness is synonymous with the pursuit of money."

Carrera "decided to put money to the test -- could I convert it back into happiness?" His works alter paper money with technical virtuosity, creating new -- even surprising -- images and contexts. (Don't miss the Charles M. Hall \$5 dollar bill).



In addition to altered currency, the exhibition includes two complete artists' books by Carrera -- *Get me the President* (Quercus Press, 1999), and *Moneybound* (Oberlin, OH.: 1991).

After graduating from Oberlin, Carrera studied in the MFA program at the University of Wisconsin and subsequently taught courses in book arts at various colleges -- including Oberlin, Whitman, and Bowdoin. He has given numerous lectures and talks on topics related to the book arts, including "Making a Living as a Book Artist."

Carrera will give a gallery talk at 2 p.m. on September 11. The talk will explore his career as a book artist, his views on the relationship between money and happiness, the societal function of money (including its role in politics), and the importance of libraries for democracy.

The exhibition and gallery talk coincide with a national library effort called the September Project, which calls upon libraries across the nation to open their doors as a public meeting place on September 11. The goal of the project is to "share and discuss ideas about democracy, citizenship, and patriotism through public talks, roundtables, and performances." For more information on the September Project see [www.theseptemberproject.org](http://www.theseptemberproject.org).

The Pursuit of Happiness exhibition runs through Tuesday, December 14.

## Voter Registration @ the Library

All members of the Oberlin community will have the opportunity to register to vote at the Main Library during the last three weeks of September. The Library will staff a voter registration table on the main level of Mudd Center from 3-5 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning on September 13 and continuing through Wednesday, September 29. Voter registration forms may also be filled out at the Main Library Reference Desk during evening and weekend reference desk hours.

The voter registration service is being provided in conjunction with the "Register to Vote @ Your Library" campaign, a national initiative of the American Library Association that is designed in part to "make it easy for libraries to involve their campuses and communities in the electoral process..." For more information on the ALA initiative go to: <http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/sponsorship/voterregistration.htm>

### Library

### Perspectives

Ray English  
Jessica Grim  
Megan Mitchell  
Editors

A newsletter for users and Friends of the Oberlin College Library, *Library Perspectives* is issued two times a year. Printed from an endowed fund established by Benjamin and Emiko Custer.



## Oberlin Grad Wins Mellon Scholarship



Justin Clarke '01

Justin Clarke, Oberlin class of 2001, is one of four winners of the 2004 Mellon Graduate Library School Scholarship. The \$5,000 scholarship is a component of the Mellon librarian recruiting program, a collaborative project involving Mount Holyoke, Oberlin, Occidental, Swarthmore, and Wellesley Colleges that is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2003). The program was created to encourage talented students from diverse backgrounds to enter the library profession. Clarke was chosen from among 20 candidates from the five schools participating in the project.

After graduating from Oberlin as a German major, Clarke worked at Temple University Library in the Collection Development Office. He is currently a Technical Services Specialist at the Swarthmore College Library, working on projects involving library webpage development and building an open-URL bibliography. He will attend Drexel University's College of Information Science and Technology this fall. After graduating from Drexel he intends to continue working in academic libraries, where he hopes to provide "seamless and intuitive technologies that can better serve our patrons."

### Duffy continued from page 1

Duffy is a regular panelist on the PBS show *Washington Week in Review*, hosted by Gwen Ifill, where he analyzes current national affairs, and he has also appeared on NBC's *Meet the Press* and CBS's *Face the Nation*.

Duffy will speak about the role of libraries in his life viewed through the prism of three books that he read during his freshman year at Oberlin.

## Two Obies Appointed Mellon Library Associates

Grace Hammond '04 and Oumarou Hamadou '04 have been named Mellon Library Associates for the 2004/2005 academic year. Hammond will be a Library Associate at Oberlin, while Hamadou will work at Mount Holyoke College, in South Hadley, Massachusetts.

The Library Associate positions are a component of the Mellon librarian recruitment



Grace Hammond '04

program, a collaborative project involving five academic libraries that is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2003 and Fall 2004). The one-year positions provide full-time employment and in-depth experience in all aspects of academic librarianship for selected students who have a strong interest in pursuing a library career. Five positions were awarded across the five participating schools (Mount Holyoke, Oberlin, Occidental, Swarthmore, and Wellesley).

Hammond majored in creative writing and history, and was an Intern in the Mellon recruitment program during her senior year at Oberlin. As part of her internship she worked to develop the library at the North Coast Correctional Facility in Grafton, Ohio. Her other library experience includes volunteer

work in South Africa during January 2004 as part of the World Library Partnership Winter Term project, work as a library aide at an elementary school on the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in North Dakota, and several years as a circulation assistant at Oberlin Public Library. Following her year as a Library Associate she plans to pursue her masters in librarianship, "enroll[ing] in a program specifically designed for work in underrepresented communities (tribal, rural, corrections)."

Hamadou, who graduated with a double major in French and political science, has worked as a library attendant at African Heritage House and as a French language tutor. He has also taught French at several institutions and served as a soccer coach both in the Oberlin area and in his native Cameroon. He was a recipient of a McNair Fellowship in 2003. His interest in libraries stems from his research experience at Oberlin, about which he writes "...a new world of knowledge opened up to me within the college library. Throughout the process of researching topics for my course work, I was constantly amazed at the books available to me on a wide variety of topics."

Selection of Library Associates is a competitive process, with applications coming from both graduating seniors and alumni from all five participating institutions. That Oberlin College seniors won two of five positions is in keeping with a strong tradition of Oberlin alumni in librarianship.



Oumarou Hamadou '04

### Electronic Interlibrary Loan continued from page 1

of articles can select that option themselves with the "change user information" option.

According to Allison Gallaher, Head of Circulation, "the Library currently receives in electronic format approximately 60% of the articles requested, and over time we expect that percentage to increase." Gallaher believes this delivery method will be very popular and she is especially pleased that it will provide service to users who have internet access but are not located on campus, such as the students and faculty in the Oberlin-in-London Program.

Articles that are received from other libraries in print form will still be available at the Main Library circulation desk – or sent via campus mail.

## Support for Prominent Open Access Publisher

OhioLINK recently announced that it will fund half of the publication fee for all faculty and researchers at OhioLINK member institutions whose articles are published in the Public Library of Science's (PLOS) open access journals. OhioLINK's commitment demonstrates strong support of PLoS both in its role as an advocate for open access publishing and as a publisher of peer-reviewed journals whose content is freely accessible online. Since the Library earlier decided to become an institutional member of PLoS (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2004), Oberlin faculty will now have the full author's fee paid for articles that are accepted in PLoS journals.

PLoS is a nonprofit organization of scientists and physicians that is committed to making the world's scientific and medical literature a public resource, freely available to all. PLoS publishes high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journals, including *PLoS Biology* and the forthcoming *PLoS Medicine*. PLoS journals are funded through authors' fees and other pre-publication revenues, rather than through library subscriptions or licenses.

Open access -- in the form of both open access journals and author self-archiving in openly accessible repositories -- has become a major strategy for addressing problems in the system of scholarly communications that have resulted from extraordinarily high prices for journals issued by commercial publishers, especially in scientific, technical, and medical fields.

Open access has recently gained strong support both in this country and abroad. The Appropriations Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives has recommended that the results of all research funded by the National Institutes of Health be made openly accessible in PubMed Central, the digital library maintained by the National Library of Medicine. Under the recommendation, authors of NIH funded research would deposit the final version of peer-reviewed articles in PubMed Central when their articles are accepted for publication in

*continued on page 6*

## SAILS: Assessing Information Literacy

This fall, as part of long-term efforts to work collaboratively with faculty to improve the information literacy skills of Oberlin students, the Library will participate in Project SAILS (Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills). SAILS is a sophisticated, web-based survey developed by a team of librarians from Kent State University, working under the auspices of the Association of Research Libraries and with grant support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The survey is designed to document information literacy skill levels among college students in a standardized manner that is easy to administer.

The Library will cooperate with the First Year Seminar Program to test 200-400 first-year students using the SAILS survey. It is expected that results from the survey will help document information literacy skill levels for our incoming students, establish internal and peer benchmarks of performance, and pinpoint areas for improvement.

### Digital Developments *continued from page 3*

as a database from OhioLINK, was compiled by Richard P. Morgan of Willoughby, Ohio. The bibliography includes names of libraries that own copies of individual items. The Morgan Library of Ohio Imprints, located in Willoughby, holds copies of 1,700 of the titles listed. A search for "Oberlin" yields 384 entries, including many materials published by the Oberlin Collegiate Institute.

### Simonson Geology Images

A collection of more than 500 environmental geology images from around the globe has been added to the OhioLINK Digital Media Center's Science Database. The images, created from photographs taken by Oberlin Professor of Geology Bruce Simonson, are organized by topics such as streams and rivers, ground water, slope processes, volcanic processes, and mining activities. The collection is intended primarily for teachers and students of introductory courses in geology and environmental studies and is expected to grow to 2,000 images.

### Database Changes

Access to *Oxford Reference Online* has been upgraded to the "premium collection" thanks to a grant to Libraries Connect Ohio by the Library Services Technology Act. In addition to the 100+ titles in the core collection, the Library now has online access to a range of titles in the *Oxford Companions* series, plus the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations*.

A new database, *Anthropology Plus*, has been formed from the merger of *Anthropological Literature*, produced by the Tozzer Library at Harvard, and *Anthropological Index*, produced by the Royal Anthropological Institute. *Anthropology Plus* provides worldwide indexing of journal articles, reports, commentaries, and edited works in all fields of anthropology (social, cultural, physical, biological, and linguistic) and archaeology. The index covers all core periodicals in addition to local and lesser-known journals.

### Cuyahoga County Public Library Joins OhioLINK

On August 23rd Cuyahoga County Public Library (CCPL) became the first public library to join the OhioLINK system. Students, faculty, and staff at OhioLINK institutions can now directly borrow CCPL materials, many of which are unique titles in the OhioLINK Library Catalog. It is also possible for users to specify any of CCPL's 28 branches as a pickup location for OhioLINK materials.

### Electronic Journal Center News

Over the summer the five-millionth article was added to the OhioLINK Electronic Journal Center (EJC). Now in its seventh year of service, the EJC contains a total of 5,990 journal titles from 81 publishers. New journal issues are added to the EJC daily. To stay current, OhioLINK users have the option of receiving table-of-contents updates via e-mail alerts or RSS feeds.

### South Africa Winter Term *continued from page 1*

rural South Africa. Our first program was truly a life-changing experience for the Oberlin participants. Several have decided to explore a career in international development or libraries and all are keenly interested in news about the friends they made in South Africa. The South African students and teachers have told us many times how much they enjoyed hosting the hard-working volunteers. The African students are continuing the debate teams and other projects they started in January. This funding will allow us to make our future programs even better."

# Join Us. Be A Friend.

The Friends of the Oberlin College Library provide significant support for special acquisitions and programs that help the Library fulfill its fundamental role in the academic life of the College.

Members receive the *Library Perspectives* newsletter, invitations to Friends programs, and other privileges. Most of all, Friends have the satisfaction of supporting Oberlin's outstanding Library.

## Annual Membership Categories

\$2 Student

\$30 Friend

\$100 Sponsor

\$5 Recent Graduate

\$40 Couple

\$500 Patron

\$50 Associate

\$1,000 Benefactor

Please return this coupon with your membership contribution to:

Friends of the Oberlin College Library

Mudd Center, Oberlin, Ohio 44074

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

Please make checks payable to Oberlin College.  
Friends contributions are tax-deductible.

## Open Access Publisher

*continued from page 5*

peer reviewed journals. In addition, a report of a Parliamentary inquiry into scientific publishing in the United Kingdom has recommended that British governmental funding agencies provide support for authors who publish in open access journals and also that British universities create digital institutional repositories that would capture the research output of each institution, making it freely available online.

## Library

### Perspectives

Oberlin College Library  
Mudd Center  
148 West College Street  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1532

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage

P A I D

Oberlin, Ohio

Permit No. 8